

What is happening at Pre-school in Term 2?

Welcome back to Pre-school, we hope you all had a lovely break.

This term our themes will include Homes & Buildings, Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Fairy Stories & Christmas.

We have reached that time of year again when the children are going to inevitably catch colds. They may say they want to come to Pre-school but please consider the other children and staff. You need to make the decision if they should come to Pre-school when perhaps a day or two at home would be best to avoid spreading it to others, including the staff. If they are running on Calpol they should not be at Pre-school. Regarding Covid, we will be following the school guidance which is, if the children test positive, they should remain at home for 3 days or longer if they have a temperature. Also, our policy for sickness/diarrhoea is that there must be a period of 48 hours since the last bout before returning to Pre-school.

The staff will be arranging a time for you to come and spend a short time one morning at Pre-school to see what your child enjoys doing. There will also be an opportunity to look at their "learning journey" and talk to their Key Person. More details nearer the time.

CHRISTMAS POST BOX – This will be available from **Thursday 1st – Tuesday 13th December** for the children to send cards to their friends at Pre-school if they would like too.

SANTA'S SLEIGH - Santa will be touring the village on his sleigh on **Sunday 11th December from 5.00-8.00pm**

CHRISTMAS PARTY – Wednesday 14th December – 12-1.30 pm at Pre-school – All Pre-school children are invited to the party where lunch and entertainment will be provided. The Pre-school sessions before and after the party will run as normal.

- If your child attends all day please bring them as usual at 9 am and collect at 3pm, but no packed lunch is required.
- If they normally attend just in the morning, please collect them at 1.30 pm.
- If they attend in the afternoon, please bring them at 12.00 but without a packed lunch.
- If they do not normally come on a Wednesday but would like to come to the party, please bring them at 12.00 and collect at 1.30.

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT – Monday 19th December 2.30 pm - You are invited to come to Pre-school and watch the children entertain you. All children will be taking part but please let us know if they are unable to attend.

Closure due to Snow – As I write this with temperatures in the high teens, I hope we will not have to think about this yet but just thought I would share with you our policy should the need arise!! Due to the difficulties many have encountered in the past, pushing buggies up the hill, walking with babies in back packs etc we have decided to make our own decisions as to whether it would be safer to close Pre-school rather than follow the Primary School's decision. Should we decide to close Pre-school, we will announce our decision on our website, Facebook page, and also email our decision to you. We will always consider the safety of our children, parents, and staff.

Safeguarding – At Pre-school we take this very seriously and stress that it is everyone’s responsibility. There is a notice on the board by our gate with information but please speak to a member of staff if you have any concerns.

Online safety - we all need to be very aware of on-line safety and ensure that our children are safe whilst using the internet. We have been asked to share this link with you all, ensuring that your children are accessing age appropriate games and programmes. Please see a child friendly resource that you might find useful: <https://www.childnet.com/resources/digiduck-stories/>

Staff Changes- Last but certainly not the least news! We sadly announce that Linda and Karen will be retiring at the end of this term and we will be saying a very sad goodbye before Christmas. Both Linda and Karen have worked at Pre-School for 20+ years and have been at Pre-school from when it first opened its doors. They have made it into the wonderful Pre-school that it is today! They have seen so many families go through Pre-school and some of the children they looked after are now bringing their own children for us to look after! We can’t thank them enough for all they have given Pre-school over the years and we will miss them immensely!! Don’t worry, we are sure they will pop up to visit us!! Therefore, we are pleased to announce that Sally will be taking over as Manager from January 2023 and Keryl will be taking over as Deputy.

A little bit from Sally: “It is a great honour to be taking over as manager of Pre-school next year. I have 18 years’ experience working in the Early Years; mainly working in nurseries from being room leader, deputy and manager, working 1:1 with a child with global delays and also being a childminder in the village for the last 6 years. I have been working at Pre-school since May last year and absolutely love working with such an amazing team and children. Since September I have been working closely alongside Linda to learn the ropes of my new role. She has been a great support and I look forward to my new role! We are currently in the process of recruiting a new staff member, ready for their start with us in January. We will of course keep you updated with our successful candidate. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to me. Many thanks, Sally”

AND FINALLY....

Please ensure **ALL** children have coats, hats & mittens at Pre-school for playing outside in the garden.

We appreciate it is not always easy to talk to staff at the gate but if you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to email or phone and we will contact you as soon as possible.

Many thanks

Linda, Sally, Keryl, Karen & Rachel.

Term 2 ends – Tuesday 20th December (time to be confirmed but possibly 1pm in line with the school.)

Term 3 starts – Thursday 5th January 2023

Safeguarding Children- what to do if you think a child is at risk of abuse or neglect:

Immediate danger-if you think a child is in immediate danger, call the police on 999.

Immediate concern- if you have a concern about a child, please call MASH on 0345 050 7666.

[Report child abuse / Oxfordshire County Council](#)